701 Mobilization generally failed during the period of hostilities. The majority of men managed to secure themselves in the "armored institutions" exempt from draft, others went into hiding, and a small number reported for duty. Many men in hiding were killed or wounded and exiled during the *"oblavas"* (manhunts and searches).

702 After the war, classes of 1926-1928 were called up for training. Presently, men born in 1929-1931 are in training. The basic training takes place in Lithuania and East Prussia. The trainees wear their own clothing and provide their own food: each week they are drilled 4 days and then are told to proceed home and bring back food supplies for a week. When training is completed, men are dispatched to Russian bases, some are assigned to the 16th Infantry Division stationed in the homeland.

702 874 There is no officers school for Lithuania specifically. However, in all university and college level schools military training is obligatory for men and women throughout the years of schooling, 4-5 hours weekly. Reserve commissions in respective specialties are given upon graduation—Junior Lieutenantcy to Captaincy, depending on the degree of success in passing the examinations of the Military Chair ("Cathedral"). General Karvelis, a former artillery officer of the Lithuanian Army, heads the military "chair" in the University of Vilnius, assisted by Colonel Purelis. General Vincas Vitkauskas, former commander-in-chief of the Lithuanian Army, heads the military chair in the University of Kaunas. Lectures are given in Russian and Lithuanian, depending on the lecturer's ability to speak Lithuanian and the composition of his class. The lecturing personnel is one-half Russian. Orders are given in Russian.

[872] In secondary schools, military training is likewise compulsory for both boys and girls, beginning with the basic first grade.

War Preparations

712 Klaipéda (Memel) is converted into a major submarine and naval base.

723 During the first half of 1948, regular Soviet Army forces (exclusive of the Navy and MVD-MGB units) stationed in Lithuania numbered about 80,000 men of infantry, artillery, aviation, armored and tank units. The artillery is concentrated along the seacoast.

Airfields are continually expanded to accommodate transport craft but the number of planes shifts—the planes refuel and take off. Nevertheless, some "destroyers" (fighter planes), light bombers, reconnaissance and training planes are permanently stationed. Radar installments are in evidence, but do not seem to be alerted. Three "rocket artillery" airfields were constructed at Lisbergylas-Linksmakalnis in Kaunas, at Vilnius, and in Mažeikiai county in the northwest. Little is known regarding the closely guarded secret weapons of "Toxin Fog" and "Thermite Artillery." Aviation training schools are in operation at Vilnius and Kaunas, but no Lithuanian students are admitted there.

According to Russian officers, Estonia and Karelia form "Zone A of the Strategic Area of the Northern Front," while Latvia, Lithuania and East Prussia form "Zone B, an auxiliary strategic and supply area for the operational area of Poland."

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712 If these officers speak the truth, the Soviet Army
723 seems to place many hopes in the "first line of rocket artillery" resting on bases in Finland, Karelia and Estonian islands, a part of the "Leningrad Offensive Area." Lithuania and East Prussia serve as "the second line and the security zone of the connecting road junctions."

In addition to elaborate installations on the Estonian islands and the tip of Kurzeme, fortifications are constructed along the line running from the port of Liepaja in Latvia, through Mažeikiai, along the upper Venta river, down the banks of the Dubysa southward to the Nemunas river, and up the Nemunas to the stronghold of Gardinas-Grodno. Ramifications of that underground fortified line give an impression of two fortified belts, with extended strong points at intervals. Underground fuel oil dumps, and steel and concrete munitions dumps are constructed. The fortified points are circled by medium sized airfields cleverly masked as "pastures" or "planted fields." Subterranean fuel dumps, more or less 3 meters deep, radiate 2 to 10 km. from such airfields. However, some of these dumps are intended for fuel other than gasoline. Inasmuch as these "magazines" lie near the main communication arteries, it is supposed that these dumps are intended for the long range rocket artillery—a weapon well developed by the Soviets. The sites are closely guarded by MVD garrisons, and labor crews are isolated from the natives. The work was done by military engineer units and labor gangs brought from Russia.

717 A larger airfield is located near Šiauliai. About 30 twin-motored fighter planes of new production are stationed there, in addition to more than a dozen old-type 2-U machines and several long range (up to 2,200
707 km.) bombers of new type. This is said to be the training base of the "Northern Front," where exercises for offensive action against Western Germany, the British Isles and Scandinavia are staged. An auxiliary base was constructed nearby in 1948.

000 Since July 1948, large MVD-MGB units, hospital trains and cavalry brigades were concentrated around Baranowicze and southward to Lviv, and additional air squadrons flew toward Pomerania. Simultaneously, large troop movements by railroad were observed toward Königsberg, and munitions trains rolled westward day and night for several weeks. It seemed that the Russians were expecting hostilities over Berlin and were moving reinforcements and supplies to Germany, and concentrating repression forces for another wave of mass deportations from Lithuania, in accordance with the orders of the Politburo relayed by MGB Abakumov.

Part of these troops were later diverted to Lithuania. A state of insurrection was deliberately provoked in connection with forcible collectivization, and an "operation" of deportations was effected.

Repression Forces

625 The MVD forces stationed permanently in Lithuania number at least 30,000 men, mainly infantry and motorized units. A MVD school is operated on Duonelaitis Street in Kaunas, where MVD officer candidates are trained.

The MGB forces number about 40,000 men, of whom 10% are Lithuanians. A MGB officers school

625 operates on the Gediminas Street in Vilnius, and nearly 30% of its cadets are Lithuanians. Small tank and reconnaissance planes are at the disposal of the MVD and MGB forces.

The People's Militia is part of the MVD, and most of the Lithuanian personnel is found there. The *"Istrebiteli"* ("Exterminators") are a part of the MGB. The "Istrebiteli" were devised in the spring of 1945 to combat "political bandits." Guerrilla activities were widespread at the time, and the Russians attempted to enlist about 30 native "Istrebiteli" in each township. All sorts of inducements and privileges were offered, including exemption from draft. Native Russians, gypsies and Polish-speaking city vagrants enlisted, as well as some Lithuanian youths anxious to escape the draft. The guerrillas, through the underground press and through their relatives, waged a very strenuous campaign against the "Istrebiteli." Recruits were ambushed and killed. Their ranks were depleted in skirmishes, when untrained raw recruits faced the veteran guerrillas. After each skirmish, the guerrillas circulated mimeographed appeals to "brothers," urging the "Stribs" to abandon the enemy and either join the guerrilla forces or seek a legal status somewhere in the country, rather than aid the oppressor in destroying their own people. This campaign was successful: few Lithuanians enlisted and the recruits deserted.

725 625 The Russians used the "Stribs" in collecting compulsory grain quotas and taxes, and these functions made them universally hated. The inhabitants slyly derided the "Stribs" and *"Stribikauliai"* (deformed hips), etc., just as they referred to the "great" comrade Suslov as *"Sušlava"* (trash sweepings). The "Stribs," receiving weapons but no uniforms nor food from the government, followed the example of the Russian tutors and engaged in wholesale robberies, murders and thefts. Farmers in no way connected with the resistance defended themselves with axes and scythes.

Such "living standards" rapidly depleted the once formidable force. In most places, only 2 or 3 "Stribs" survived in individual townships. These were finally incorporated in the uniformed MGB units. Township contingents were complemented by Russian aliens, a dozen to several dozen men in each township. Reserve units of the "Stribs" are stationed in county seats. These "operational MGB aktivs" roam the countryside night and day. They search homes, collect taxes, grain quotas, seek the hiding places of the guerrillas, detain people, and shoot suspects on sight—capital punishment was "abolished" in Russia. . . .

Frontier Corps units are stationed along the heavily guarded and fortified Polish frontier, and on the seacoast. MVD railroad units guard railroad stations and depots and check passengers' papers on trains. Combined MGB-MVD patrols (jeeps, armored cars, armored motorcycles, and tanks) control the main highways, especially at night.

War Psychosis

723 722 Preparations for war are in evidence everywhere. New airfields are constructed, old fields are expanded and modernized. Armored units, air squadrons and artillery are constantly in transit. Closely guarded military trains travel by night. The populace is kept in a state of nervous war tension—probably to provoke

723 "latent enemies of the people." Mobilization exercises
722 are periodically staged, to test the apparatus. Speakers addressing mass meetings denounce American and British "imperialists" and "warmongering aggressors." War morale permeates the administrative apparatus, the Party and army circles. Workers are urged to strain every effort for the "defense of the Soviet motherland" and to increase the output.

[207] Radio listening sets are still in existence. Their number is considerably smaller than before the war, inasmuch as permits are required. Such permits are given by the authorities to "loyal citizens" and every applicant would automatically place himself under suspicion. "Radio points" are installed in KP/b clubs, "Red Corners," and loudspeakers blare out the broadcasts from Vilnius and Moscow.

Nevertheless, several hundred unregistered radio receiving sets are owned illegally, and foreign broadcasts are heard.

Population and Minorities

162 Lithuania presently has roughly 2,300,000 inhabitants—a loss of 200,000 within the single year 1948. However, over 200,000 Soviet nationals—armed forces, MGB, MVD, and settlers—replaced the natives. The colonists settled where the long arm of the guerrillas cannot reach them—in large cities and in the areas where there were Russian settlements prior to 1940: in Zarasai county, and at Jonava and Kruonis. Russians are also settled in the Klaipėda District and in the western areas (Samagitia) which were largely depopulated by the retreating Germans and several "operations" of the MVD-MGB. Few Russians settled along the Polish-Lithuanian frontier and some 20,000 Lithuanians "repatriated" from Poland were moved there. East Prussia—in both the Russian and Polish-annexed sections—is settled predominantly by White-ruthenes (Byelorussians), presumably in an attempt to erect a Whiteruthenian "wedge toward the sea" which would finally cut off Lithuania from the Baltic.

Kaunas has a population of 150,000, of whom 60% are Lithuanians. Vilnius has a population of about 160,000, of whom 37% are Lithuanians, 23% are Poles, 40% are Russians and others. There is no longer a separate Polish underground since the "repatriation" of Poles.

There are practically no native Germans left, but there are thousands of German vagrants, mostly women and children who seek food and work on farms. Some Tatars, Karaims and Gypsies survived.

563 About 3,000 native Jews stayed in the country and some 15,000 other Jews arrived from Russia. The Jews settled in the cities and occupy the more important posts in the administration. Their children attend Russian schools exclusively. For these reasons, the natives distrust Jews. Even those Jews whom the Lithuanians had saved from extermination during the Nazi occupation at great personal risk, avoid helping those who aided them. In fact, when now approached for aid to save their benefactors from deportation, they complain that "food had been bad" when they were hiding on Lithuanian farms.

In Butrimonys, where some 100 Jewish families lived before the war, only several families survived. One of the surviving Jews was especially ungrateful toward the farmer who had saved him at great per-